

# Virtual Annual General Meeting 2020

## Minutes

<b>Date:</b>	Monday 02 <sup>nd</sup> November 2020
<b>Time:</b>	1800 hrs
<b>Place:</b>	<b>Johnstonebridge Community Centre, Johnstonebridge.</b>

<b>Attendees:</b>	Lord David Johnstone (Chairman) Lady Julia Barnard, John Graham, George Muirhead, Russ Watson (Board members) Community Members: Anne and Shelby Watson, Christal and Colin, Andrew Barnard, Sally Graham, Katie Nairn (Consultant), Carmen Bartsch Johnston (Admin)
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<b>Apologies:</b>	Billy Lockhart
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Item	Minutes
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1	David Johnstone welcomed everyone and thanked attendance. Due to current COVID-19 19 restrictions the meeting was held via Zoom (virtual meeting) and he recognised, that this might be challenging for some. As the country is still under restrictions any public open meeting is not possible, but we all agree, that hopefully the next meeting will be in Hall again.  He thanked the volunteers for their support provided during these challenging times and continues dedication to the Centre.
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2	Apologies were made on behalf of Billy Lockhart, who struggled to get the online access.
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3	<b>Correspondence: None.</b> 2019 correspondence from Jackie Taylor was resolved with return e-mail by LDJ.
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4	The previous 2019 AGM minutes where read out by LDJ and agreed. No comments or questions raised by the attendees.  <b>Proposed: Julia Barnard</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Seconded: George Muirhead</b></span>
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5	<b>Chairperson's report by David Johnstone:</b>  The 2019 AGM was held in the Hall good attendance at the time was appreciated. This time around the current COVID-19 19 situation makes things far more challenging to meet or discuss upcoming matters.  As in previous years the running of the hall is challenging to make it a sustainable venture and as per last years AGM the planed 'open Day' was not possible and should be reconsidered in the future.  The Big Lottery Fund administered the final restricted payment of £26000 for 2021. Thereafter the Trust need to be in the position to run the Centre in a sustainable way.  Remaining challenges to get the Hall working in a sustainable way are:  1). Current COVID-19 19 restrictions do not allow any business in the centre, however we managed to complete the required storage as the new Shed is up and works very well. Also, the overflow Car park for the Centre is finished and was pre COVID used for some event or
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training days. The JB Dog Walkers Club are happy their Dog exercise area is in good use by the local dog owners.

- 2). Member numbers and Community involvement still need to be encouraged.
- 3). The new Community council was active from February 2020 and the CC Resilience Team did an extremely good job to support and help disadvantaged and shielding Community members during the first lockdown period (April – August). Unfortunately, due to lack of commitment the CC has now been dissolved again (September 2020). The repeated absence of a CC in Johnstone Parish presents a disadvantage to other Communities in the area as no community funding can be accessed.
- 4). The Trust secured the Small Business Grant for Charities of £10000 to cover basic running cost of the Hall with lack of other income opportunity. Staff costs are partly covered by current government furlough scheme.
- 5). Further encouragement within the community is required to invite new Board members, as currently the core group of people work within and keep the Trust running. Some Office bearers are in post from the beginning of the Trust.
- 6). Even if currently no business is possible, we want to make sure the Centre is ready whenever the Government guidelines allow business to resume.
- 7). The future Trust Newsletter to the Community will be done via website, face book and hard copies available in the Hall or Post office.

### **Treasurer's report: - year ending 2019**

As per the Financial Statement (audited accounts) which will be available on the website, majority of activity is still in the running costs of the hall.

Grants have been used for the designated purposes like the Shed, overflow Car park and feasibility work of the rural housing project.

Obligations with the Big Lottery restricted funding for staffing and the running costs are still in place, but slightly altered due to current COVID-19 19 circumstances.

Our thanks go to all grant funders, for their continues support to allow this Community to further evolve.

The formal format for processing invoices and payments is in place as per previous FY and the audited accounts will be available on the website in due course.

Bank Stands as at: 02.10.2020

Reserve policy is in place for £15000 (6 month running cost of the hall)

Revenue - £ 15 710.91

Main - £ 136 071.65

7	<p><b>Questions to/from directors on AOB:</b></p> <p>The Rural Housing project at Beechfield (JB) was further investigated and discussed with the involved parties (i.e. David Johnstone – Trust, Mike Staples - DGSHP, Mark Turnbull – Architect). Planning application was submitted to the DG Planners for 6 units. The Architect and QS provided potential costs for the project (1 - 1.5 Mill.) which the representative of the Trust feels not comfortable with. Mike Staples is working with the Government to see if extra funding is available to proceed with this project. In present times to invest in Housing is very risky and it would take many years to get any return on the investment.</p> <p>GM asked if it would be possible to sell some land (building plots) to finance the project but got advised that there is only a small value to the land as it is a challenging site to build on and demand is limited for such land.</p> <p>Planners need to answer questions for the Trust to make decision on the project.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>RW questioned Volunteers insurance, as some of the work (i.e. Grass cutting) is done on behalf of the Trust on Trust land and what liability insurance is in place in case of any accident happening.</p> <p>CBJ to contact insurer (NFU) to investigate and advise Board accordingly.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>RW mentioned the repeated effort of Community members helping during the lockdown period in summer (Eddie Cairnie painted Benches for the Community and Margaret Kirkland and Rose Robertson being busy doing weeding and planting in Community areas).</p> <p>The Trust extends a big thank you to them and everyone else (i.e. Resilience team) for helping and being part of a good Community.</p>
	<p><b>Acceptance of financial statements for 2019:</b></p> <p><b>Moved:</b> David Johnstone <span style="float: right;"><b>Seconded:</b> The Board Directors</span></p>
9	<p><b>Acceptance of annual report for 2019:</b> The audited annual accounts are accepted by the Board as presented and discussed. (To be accessed on the website in due course).</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> David Johnstone <span style="float: right;"><b>Seconded:</b> The Board Directors</span></p>
10	<p><b>Result of election of Officers:</b></p> <p>The board had received no resignation, Lord David Johnstone stepped down as chairman and stand again for a further term.</p> <p><b>Moved: George Muirhead</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Seconded: Russ Watson</b></span></p>

11	<b>Meeting close:</b> David Johnstone thanked everyone for their effort to attend the virtual AGM meeting and is hopeful the next meeting can be held in person again, when the restrictions are lifted.
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<b>Minute taker:</b>	Carmen Bartsch Johnston
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<b>Signed:</b>	
<b>Name:</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	